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[P. 1.]

A  
S E R M O N

Preached before HIS GRACE

JOHN Duke of *Marlborough*,  
P R E S I D E N T,

THE  
VICE-PRESIDENTS and GOVERNORS  
OF THE

H O S P I T A L

FOR THE  
SMALL-POX, and for INOCULATION,

AT THE  
Parish-Church of *St. Andrew Holborn*,  
On THURSDAY, *March 5, 1752.*

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*By* ISAAC Lord Bishop of WORCESTER.

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*Published at the Request of the* PRESIDENT, VICE-  
PRESIDENTS, *and* GOVERNORS.

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T O T H E  
K I N G ' s

Most Excellent MAJESTY.

*S I R !*

**I**T would be a Defect both in Gratitude and Duty, if the first Discourse from the Pulpit in Favour of INOCULATION, was not most humbly inscribed to YOUR MAJESTY.

THE Nation, among numerous other Instances of paternal Regard, stands obliged to Your MAJESTY's Goodness and Resolution, for the Introduction and Progress of that salutary Practice.

THE very early Concern Your MAJESTY shewed for the Safety and Happiness of this Kingdom, by exposing Your own valuable Life, with great Intrepidity, to all the Hazards of War, was again apparent, when, with equal Firmness of Mind, You

## DEDICATION.

exposed the important Lives of Your own tender and Royal Offspring, in the first Experiments made in *Britain* of the Effects of this Method of communicating an otherwise dangerous and often fatal Disease.

AND probably to this Operation we owe the Life of that illustrious PRINCE, to whom, under Divine Providence, this Nation, and the whole Protestant Interest, are so deeply indebted, for the happy Victory at the Battle of *Colloden*.

THAT Your MAJESTY's vigilant Attention to the Welfare of Your People, in all Respects, may be rewarded with a very long and happy Reign upon Earth, and crowned with immortal Glory in Heaven, is the ardent Prayer of,

S I R!

Your MAJESTY's

*Most obliged, and most devoted*

*Subject and Servant,*

ISAAC WORCESTER.



## ISAIAH LVIII. 7.

— *And that thou bring the Poor that are cast out, to thy House.*

THESE Words are Part of a Description of that *Humiliation* and *Worship*, that is *really acceptable* to the great Creator and Governor of the World; as highly proper in itself, and as a just Imitation of his divine Goodness, *which regardeth the Prayer of the poor Destitute, and despiseth not his Desire*; and which, in the sacred Writings, is so frequently represented, both as an *Example* and an *Encouragement* to human Benevolence.

Is not *this* the *Fast*, says Almighty God, *ver. 6. that I have chosen, to loose the Bands*  
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*of Wickedness,—to undo the heavy Burdens ; —is it not to deal thy Bread to the Hungry ; and that thou bring the Poor that are cast out, (cast out and afflicted, as the original Word also signifies) to thy House ? and that thou hide not thyself from thine own Flesh ?*

THE fore Distress of our Fellow-creatures, our own Flesh, literally *cast out and afflicted*, which occasions the present Solemnity, falls very naturally under the Command of the Text, *Bring the Poor that are cast out to thy House.*

THE SMALL POX is a well known Distemper, to which Providence has been pleased to subject Mankind, the Seeds of it being intermixed with the human Constitution ; this may be said *in general*, because the Instances of those, who *pass through* Life, after having arrived at Manhood, and *having been within the Reach of Infection*, are so *extremely few*, as scarce to form an Exception ; learned Calculations have made it as one to many Hundreds.

AT the same Time, this *almost universal Disease* is very *loathsome and nauseous* both to the *Sufferers* and *those who attend them* ;



so *spreading* and *infectious*, as to prevent all friendly Assistance from Persons who have not themselves undergone the Distemper ; and likewise so *pernicious* and *fatal*, as, upon a very *moderate* Calculation, to destroy *one in seven* of all whom it attacks, and very *often* in much *greater* Proportion. An Instrument of Death that slays without Distinction ! Youth and Beauty, Dignity and Power, Wealth, and Affluence, are no Protection ; the Palace and the Cottage stand in this respect upon a Level, and the *Rich* and *the Poor* meet and *fall together* ; possibly with some *Disadvantage* to the former, if *their* Blood has been inflamed by luxurious Diet and high Living.

AND where Numbers of Men are collected together, as in Garrisons, Regiments, or the Crew of a Ship, the Havock is prodigious ; which in some Junctures *has been*, and therefore *may be*, highly prejudicial in a *national View*, besides the Loss of Lives.

THE *Confusion* and Terror of the *Inhabitants*, the *Cessation* of Trade and Business, and the *great Slaughter* made by this dreadful Malady when, like a *destroying Angel*,

it attacks populous Towns and Villages, are extremely certain and notorious.

Now, the *general* View of the present charitable Undertaking, is with God's Blessing, to render this grievous Distemper *less* destructive, and diminish that horrid Devastation which it *now* continually makes among the human Species.

AND the Relief *here* propos'd to the Poor, is accordingly pursued by *two* different Methods; the one is, as it were *preventive*, to lessen the *Violence* and the *Danger* of this *malignant Disease*; the other is to supply indigent, distress'd, Patients, who *actually* labour under it *by common Infection*, with all necessary Assistance and Relief. The Aim of the previous Method is this, *viz.* After due Preparation, in a *known*, visible Manner, to raise that Commotion in the Blood, which sends forth into the Surface of the Body the latent Materials of this Distemper so very dangerous, when excited in the common Way by infectious Particles unperceived. It seems therefore (like the raising a Fit of the Gout, when the Particles of that painful Malady are dispersed



perfed thro' the whole Mafs of Blood) not fo properly the giving a Diftemper to a human Body intirely free from and out of Danger of that Diftemper, as choofing the *fafeft* Time and Manner of caufing a Diforder, otherwife almoft unavoidable in a Way extremely more pernicious, the Fuel thereof being lodged within us. An *Intention* beyond all *Dispute* worthy of much *Approbation*; and which fhould always be purfued with the utmoft Care and Precaution both in the Choice of the Perfon from whom the infectious Matter is collected, and of unexceptionable Subjects, upon whom the Operation is perform'd.

It is needlefs to enter into a Difquifition, which is the propereft Method of *defignedly* raifing this Diforder in the Human Frame, by *carrying* the Perfon that is to receive it to the *contagious Steams* or *Effluvia*; or, *bringing* to him the *infected* Matter. *Religious* Difficulties (*if any ftill remain* concerning a Practice, that has preferv'd fo many Lives, and prevented the heavielt Grief in fo many Families) are *exactly the fame*, in either Method of *voluntary* Communication.

FOR

FOR 'tis no more invading the Prerogative of Heaven, to occasion one easy and voluntary Conveyance of the Infection than another ; by a *slight* and *hardly* sensible Rasure upon the Skin of the Arm, than communicating the same Distemper by invisible Particles, to that tender Organ the Lungs, which are so frequently affected by the Venom of this Disease, when contracted by the Breath, or receiving into the Body infected Particles in what is called the natural Way.

WERE this *preventive* Method *universally successful*, and never *once* to fail in *any* Instance whatsoever, 'tis scarce to be presumed that any Objection would be raised against a salutary Expedient, to preserve from Destruction so great a Part of the human Species, as daily fall by this mortal Enemy, when it attacks Men as it were in the Dark, *ignorant* of, and *unprepar'd* for the Assault.

THIS Method of Inoculation would then be no more liable to Censure, than the making a *voluntary* Wound, by *Incision*, to form a necessary Drain ; or administering any operative Medicine, which upon *repeated*



*peated Trials* had prov'd an *unfailing Security* against any other *dangerous* and *prevailing* Pestilence or Contagion.

BUT, in order to *excite* and *secure* a *Dependence* upon his *Divine Providence*, the GREAT GOVERNOR of the World has appointed that no human Affairs, not even our necessary *Sustenance*, should be attended with such *absolute* Certainty; a very wise Appointment! That *vain* Man might not fancy himself an *independent* Being, but *among* all the *Changes* and *Chances* of this mortal Life, should still look up unto, because he can only be defended by, God's most gracious and ready Help.

EXPERIENCE alone must *determine* the good or bad Consequences of this artificial Infection, as it ought to do in *all other* medical Attempts, which in many Instances are, in *reality*, little more than curing or alleviating *one* Distemper, by exciting or introducing *another*. And in this View the Method, now under Consideration, of lessening the Hazard of a very mortal Disease, should be considered in the same Light as every other *Antidote*, or *preventive* Attempt

tempt in Phyfic or Surgery, againſt any probable, almoſt certain Malady, internal or external. I forbear therefore to derive any Strength to the Argument, from the great Number of *noble, venerable, and worthy* Perſons of every *Rank and Profeſſion*, who appear the public Advocates of this compaſſionate Deſign : Let it ſtand upon its own proper Evidence, and Foundation.

A SAFE Paſſage thro' this Diſtemper, like the emancipating *Slaves*, is a Deliverance to vaſt Numbers of People, kept as it were in *Bondage* ; who, *before* they have undergone this *abhorred* Diſeaſe, are *excluded* from *many* Offices of Life, and prevented from purſuing their neceſſary Buſineſs ; and it gives Tranquillity and Chearfulneſs to Perſons of better Condition, who under Apprehenſions of this loathſome and infectious Diſorder, were all their former Days ſubject to great Anxiety and conſtant Fear.

'Tis needleſs to enter into a Diſcuſſion of ſeveral Objections, that attended the Infancy of this uſeful Practice, which Time and fuller Experience have now removed ;  
with



with respect to the Communication of *other Diseases* with the variolous Matter ; or that certain Ails and Complaints have follow'd the inoculated Distemper ; of both which Inconveniencies there is *at least* an equal Hazard upon Infection, by an unperceiv'd Contagion, that, like a *Pestilence walketh in Darknes* : Or that the Disease is more likely to return after Inoculation. The large Experience of many Years has now effectually removed all these Objections, nor can it be wondred at, if in the *Infancy* of the Practice *especially*, some few Attempts have prov'd ineffectual.

BEYOND all Dispute, in the *voluntary* Communication of this Disease, there is an happy Opportunity to choose — The best Season of the Year — The early, the properest Time of Life — A Juncture when the *Disease* itself is most *favourable*, and the Blood is in a right State to receive it, neither too much enriched, nor too much impoverished — To prevent treating the first *doubtful* Symptoms in an improper manner — To avoid *Cold*, or *Inflammation* of the *Blood*, by Food, C Liquors,

Liquors, or Exercise, after the *known* Infection is received.

BUT to proceed to the only sure Evidence, real Experience and Matter of Fact; in which almost every Part of the Globe, *Asia, Europe,* and *America* give a concurrent Testimony—  
GREAT BRITAIN in particular has now had a Trial of this voluntary Method of artificially exciting the Distemper for *near thirty Years* at different Times, and distant Places, with very great Success.

AT *first*, indeed, in this, as in other very useful Articles, the Success was far inferior to what longer Experience, and repeated Trials have *now so happily accomplish'd*, in this *Metropolis*, as well as in diverse other Places, particularly in that useful Establishment formed for the Reception of deserted young Children; and more especially in *this Hospital* peculiarly instituted for this good Purpose, being *one Branch* of the Charity for which we are now assembled.

BESIDES this *general Evidence* of the Advantages of Inoculation, I can speak with more Assurance upon the beneficial Effects of that Operation, because I speak upon  
full



full Information, and by the Permission of three Gentlemen in particular, of deserved Eminence and Distinction in the Profession \*, who have been very largely employed for a considerable Time, in this salutary Practice. It cannot therefore fail to give this worthy Audience much Satisfaction, to be thus authentically assured ;

- I. That the artificial Communication of *the Small Pox by Inoculation*, is, almost without Exception, an effectual Security against that dangerous Symptom the *second* Fever, which destroys so great Part of those who perish in the natural Way.
- II. That under Inoculation, there is scarce any Difficulty in Breathing or Complaint upon the Lungs, which Disorder produces so many bad Effects when the Distemper is received in the unknown and accidental Manner.

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\* Mr. Serjeant *Ranby*, Mr. Serjeant *Hawkins*, and Mr. *Middelton*. The Nation may soon hope for a very compleat, useful, and welcome Account of this important Affair, from the first of these learned Hands.

The III<sup>d</sup> and most material Article is the great and happy Success, as to Numbers, with which God's good Providence has blessed this useful Operation ; Great, beyond the most sanguine Hopes ; so great that in above FIFTEEN HUNDRED Persons inoculated by these eminent Hands, only *three* have died ; and this very material Fact is also confirmed by unexceptionable Accounts from diverse other Places \*.

BUT that a Matter of such Importance may be brought to some apparent Certainty, it may not be improper to enter a little into Calculation. FROM

\* Thus, for Example, the learned Dr. *Langrish* of *Winchester*, gives the following Account :

“ About ten Years ago the Small Pox raged furiously  
 “ in *Winchester*, and some neighbouring Towns, and in  
 “ the natural Way proved an unkind Sort, which induced  
 “ great Numbers to be inoculated. In PORTSMOUTH,  
 “ CHICHESTER, GUILFORD, PETERSFIELD, and WIN-  
 “ CHSTER, we reckon near two thousand that were ino-  
 “ culated at that Time, and (except two Women, who  
 “ were *both with Child*, and both inoculated *contrary* to  
 “ the Advice of their Physician) I don't remember to have  
 “ heard of any one bad Accident that befel any of them,  
 “ but what might very reasonably have been supposed to  
 “ have proved worse, if they had had the Small Pox in  
 “ the natural Way. More than this, I think, can't well  
 “ be said to prove the Usefulness of Inoculation.”



FROM the *annual Account* within the Bills of Mortality (in which many Places in and near the City are omitted) it appears, that in *twenty Years*, viz. from the Year 1731 to the Year 1750 inclusive, no less than 39,115 Persons have died of this fatal Distemper; which, including the Places not inserted in the Weekly Bills, must be considerably more than 2,000 every Year that fall in the two adjoining Cities and Parts adjacent.

AND if only *one* in *seven* (which is a very sufficient Allowance) is supposed to die by the Distemper taken in the *natural Way*, then the whole Number of Persons who in this Period of *twenty Years* have been thus infected, amounts to 280,000, and of these no less than 40,000 have perished.

BUT if in every TWO HUNDRED *one* should be supposed to die *under Inoculation*, which, as observed already, is really much more than fall by that artificial Infection, now continually advancing with increasing Safety; and the certain Fact, as above mentioned, is only *one* in 500, being less than half of the Number I have stated—But suppose I say *one* in 200 to die under *Inoculation*, then had this artificial Method of conveying the Distemper



universally taken place, instead of that prodigious Destruction of Mankind, 40,000 in the Space of 20 Years in one District, no more than 1400 had perished; and the Difference in that short Period would have been no less than THIRTY-EIGHT THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED Lives preserved, besides the numerous Posterity that might have been derived from them. And were this Practice universal in these two Cities *only*, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY Lives, under the Blessing of God, would be annually preserved.

'Tis a pleasing Observation, that the Slaughter made by this formidable Distemper is greatly decreased, the Numbers as recorded in the Yearly Bills, being one-fifth lessened *since* this Practice has prevailed.

FACTS like these, speak so strongly and so clearly, that Reasoning and Argument must be quite superfluous, to excite your generous and ample Contributions, which are absolutely necessary to carry on and extend this *great*, this *compassionate*, this *national* Undertaking. Humanity, Regard to our Country, the Dictates of Reason, and the Precepts of Religion, would awaken your generous Sentiments at any Juncture; but  
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especially



especially at this unhappy Period, when *Debauchery*, *Vice*, with the most destructive and as it were pestilential *Intemperance*, are making such daily and dreadful Havock among the Inhabitants of this Island, as renders every Design, every Attempt to preserve the Lives of the People, extremely seasonable, and to the highest Degree necessary !

THOSE, in particular, who have themselves, or whose Children have, by God's great Goodness, safely passed thro' the Dangers of so destructive a Distemper, by this happy Expedient ; those also who are desirous to obtain the divine Blessing when the Experiment is made in their own Family, cannot fail to exceed in Bounty, that the Lives of the *Poor* (of great *Regard in the Sight of God*) may also be preserved.

BUT it is high time to turn our Thoughts to the other Branch of this great and necessary Undertaking, the *Relief* of destitute and miserable Creatures, labouring under this *dreadful* Distemper, contracted by common Infection.

THIS mournful Case is peculiarly affecting, as these wretched Sufferers are so *really cast out and afflicted* ; afflicted with one of  
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the *forest* *Maladies* incident to human Nature, *cast out* and abandoned of all human Help.

THIS beneficial Charity therefore is not a new Institution, but a most desirable Addition, and a necessary Supplement to all other *Hospitals*, since from all other *Hospitals* these destitute and miserable Objects are *unavoidably excluded*, and sometimes even forcibly expelled, in the *utmost Distress*, and without any Place of *Refuge*!

THE usual *Danger* of this terrible Disease, is by this Means greatly increased, I might say ascertained, by their absolute want of all necessary Care and Assistance.

CAN Thought conceive a more deplorable Condition, or is any Sorrow like unto their Sorrow? Nor *Food*, nor *Physic*, nor *Bed* to lie upon, nor *House* to cover their diseased Bodies from the coldest Blasts of the open Air! This is no Picture drawn by Imagination, but real and certain tho' most melancholy Fact, which, to the Knowledge of many who now hear me, has occurred in numerous, affecting, shocking Instances, one of which would be sufficient to move the hardest Heart of any Spectator.



PERSONS unavoidably driven out from other Hospitals, as soon as this Distemper appears to be their real Complaint; industrious Labourers that come from far, in the busy Time of Harvest, with many others, in similar Circumstances, make up the Instances that so frequently occur, of *wretched* Objects *quite destitute* of *Friends*, or *Habitation* into which they can gain Admission.

BUT where the Calamity does not reach this extream Degree of Woe and Misery, there is still, in too many sad Instances, Distress enough to melt any human Heart.

TAKE, for *Example*, a Case that lately happened.

A POOR Man sick of this *Distemper*, of which his *Wife* lay dead in the *same* Room, with *four Children* around him *catching the dreadful Infection*, but destitute of *all* Relief, till they found *some* in that too narrow Building, which now importunately begs your compassionate Bounty to enlarge its Dimensions, that you may *then*, without *Repulse* or *Refusal*, bring the *Poor* that are *cast out* and *afflicted*, to a *House of Mercy*!

It would afford greater Joy to reflect, tho' some have died in this Place, and no

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wonder,

wonder, when they often come almost in the last Stage of the Distemper, that yet near 800 poor Creatures have, by the Blessing of the Almighty, received a Cure under this pious and charitable Institution, were not this Joy darkened by a Cloud of unrelieved Distress and Misery.

BUT cruel it would be, in the highest Degree, to poor rejected Supplicants, and unfaithful to the Nation, not to publish, that the present Supplies for this excellent and necessary Undertaking, are so defective and inadequate, that the Doors of this charitable House, all the Beds being full, are continually shut against a great Number of miserable Objects, sometimes *seven* or *eight*, in one Day, who implore Admittance; but, alas! implore in vain! The Extent of the present Building is by much too small, and the present Fund quite insufficient to enlarge it. Besides that Anguish of Heart which these unhappy Creatures feel, upon being rejected, the Public also may suffer greatly.

FOR, could such poor Wretches be received into an *Hospital* before the Disease becomes



becomes infectious,\* and continued there till they had obtain'd a Cure, and the Infection ceased; the spreading of this pernicious Malady might be very much lessen'd, which now in a Course of Communication of its subtile Particles goes far and wide, and sometimes makes sad Devastation in the best and greatest Houses. I desire not to open the Wounds of those I greatly regard, or revive my own Sympathy for the affecting Losses, in the Prime and Bloom of Life, so many noble and respectable Families have sustain'd by this undistinguishing Destroyer. 'Tis too melancholy a Thought to dwell upon, and is mentioned only to excite our Attention to that Practice which renders this grievous Malady less fatal, and to engage our Compassion to the afflicted Poor, when they have the Misfortune to be visited by the same Disease.

MAN, it is always said, is a social Creature, and it is no less certain that he ought to be a religious one; but if ever this Character can shine with distinguished Lustre,

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\* It is greatly to be wished, that the *same* Care was taken, upon *all* Occasions, not to *spread* this Distemper, as is usually taken to *avoid* involuntary Infection, by those who are liable to it.

and Society and the Influence of pure and undefiled Religion, appear with superior Advantage, it must be in such Assemblies as *this*, collected for the Purposes of pious Benevolence and Compassion, in Behalf of the afflicted Part of our own Species.

AND if ever *Scenes of Wretchedness and Misery* ought to move the Heart, and engage these amiable Dispositions, the deep and deplorable Distress of the Objects now under Consideration, will certainly produce that desirable Effect, and to a Degree answerable to the large Supplies that are absolutely requisite in a Case so very extensive.

REFLECT, with Attention, upon that beautiful, and, in the present Case, very apposite Parable of the hard-hearted rich Man, and the afflicted *Lazarus*, drawn by the *compassionate Saviour* of Mankind, to excite Benevolence and Pity, by representing the different Fate and Condition of the uncharitable *Rich*, and the distressed *Poor*, in this World, and in the next.

THERE *was a certain rich Man* who fared sumptuously every Day; and there was a certain Beggar, named *Lazarus*, which was laid at the rich Man's Gate, full of Sores,—  
unpi-



unpitied, unrelieved!—*Moreover the Dogs came and licked his Sores.*—View the awful Scene that follows, where the unmerciful rich Man, *lifting up his Eyes*, in Hell, *being in Torment*, in vain solicits for that Mercy and Relief, which he, in the Day of his *Prosperity*, had cruelly denied to his afflicted Brother; *Son*, says the holy Patriarch whom he importuned for a *Drop of Water to cool his Tongue*, REMEMBER *that thou in thy Life time receivedst thy good Things, and likewise Lazarus his evil Things; but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented!*

BUT observe, that in the Sense of the Gospel, whoever has sufficient Ability to relieve his sick and destitute Brother, and does it not, that uncharitable Person is, in truth, the *rich Man* intended by the Parable.

CARRY on your Thoughts then to that *awful Day*, when you also must appear in Judgment; and, if your present Benevolence does not prevent it, must undergo the *same sad Doom*, when your tremendous Judge shall say, and what is the stinging Aggravation, your *own Conscience* say, (as the Prophet of old to the guilty Prince)—*Thou art the Man!*

BUT

BUT, Brethren, we hope better Things of you, even such as accompany Salvation ; and that with *cheerful* Hearts, and very *liberal* Hands, you will extend your much wanted Beneficence, proportioned in some Measure to the prodigious Distress of the prodigious Numbers that stand in need of this compassionate Relief.

HAVE you, yourselves, undergone this *loathsome*, and *grievous* Disease ? have you seen your Friends or Children under it, assisted with all the Advantages of affectionate Help, and skilful Art ? Think then, and consider, how *wretched*, how *deplorable*, is the Case of a destitute Creature, visited by the same dismal Malady, without *Medicine*, and without *Attendance*.

YIELD to the benevolent Dictates of human Nature ; pursue and gratify the rational Feelings and Sympathy of your own Mind ; *hide not thyself from thine own Flesh*, preserve the Lives of your Brethren, *afflicted, destitute, sick, and abandoned* Brethren ; some of them perhaps at this very Instant, for want of a sufficient Fund to procure more extensive Relief, unavoidably delivered up to the two most woful Companions,



panions, *Poverty* and *Sickness*; excluded from this too scanty House, and miserably consigned over to *Grief*, *Despair*, and almost *certain Death*. Good God! is there one Heart here present hard enough to bear the affecting Thought!

Do Good therefore, this important Good, while you have Opportunity; to many of us, and God only knows to whom, this may be the *last Opportunity*. Neglect it not. Be grieved for the Afflictions of your Brother; *Bring the Poor that are cast out, to thy House of Mercy*; promote the Welfare of your Country; derive from the God of Heaven a Blessing upon your own Children and Family, who are equally exposed to this *Arrow of the Almighty!* and secure to yourself the everlasting Favour of the Father of Mercies, and God of all Comfort. *Amen.*

## F I N I S.

SUBSCRIPTIONS *and* BENEFACTIONS *are*  
*taken in either,*  
*For the general Design,*  
*For the particular Purpose of* INOCULATION,  
*For*

*For the Relief of those who labour under the  
Distemper in the natural Way,  
By Sir Joseph and Sir Thomas Hankey,  
Bankers in Fenchurch-Street ; Mess. Iron-  
side, Belchier and How, in Lombard-  
Street ; Mr. George Campbell, Banker in  
the Strand ; Fotherley Baker, Esq; Treas-  
urer to the HOSPITAL, at his House at Ha-  
berdashers-Hall ; or by the Committee, on  
every second and fourth Thursday in the  
Month, at St. Paul's Coffee House.*





































